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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named  
Inventor : Jing Gui

Appln. No.: 09/761,348

Filed : January 16, 2001

For : PRESSURE RELIEF TRENCHES FOR  
SLIP HEADS TO REDUCE STICTION

Docket No.: S01.12-0695

Group Art Unit: 2652

Examiner: R. Tupper

16/D  
41002  
A

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2600

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING  
SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS

20 DAY OF March 2002

PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action  
mailed on September 20, 2001. Please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraphs for insertion starting at Page 16, line 1:

D

A slider for supporting transducer elements for a data  
storage system comprising: a rigid member including opposed  
leading and trailing edges and opposed upper and lower surfaces,  
the lower surface including a raised bearing, a trailing edge  
surface being adapted to support a transducer element; landing  
pads extending from the raised bearing and adapted to define a  
contact interface with a disc surface; and at least one pressure  
relief trench formed in the raised bearing proximate to a contact  
interface position between the trailing edge of the slider and  
disc surface, the trench being sized to reduce capillary pressure  
of the meniscus along the disc surface. The slider of above  
wherein the slider may include a center rail and the center rail  
includes a pressure relief trench. The slider of above may include  
a transversely aligned pressure relief trench. The slider of above